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Drawer 142
Art 1545-11

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Stephen James Ferris


Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Winter Exhibition



American 19th & 20th Century Paintings, under \$5,000



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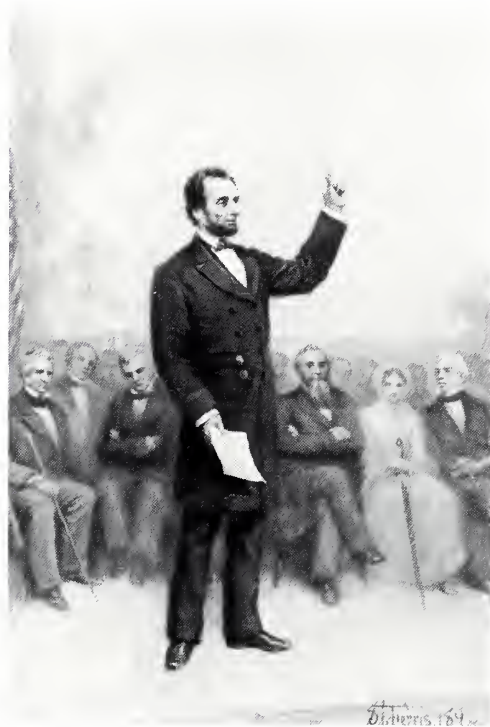
Sold 1998

6. STEPHEN JAMES FERRIS (1835-1915)
Abraham Lincoln Delivering a Speech
 Oil on academy board, 13 1/8 x 9 1/4 inches
 Signed and dated at lower right: "S.J. Ferris. 1895."

Stephen James Ferris was born in Philadelphia and studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts with Christian Schuselle and in Bordentown, New Jersey with Samuel Bell Waugh. He specialized in portraiture and won the Fortuny Prize for portraiture (Rome, 1876.) Ferris produced over two thousand portraits and created many of the portraits for Ridpath's *Histories*.

Ferris was a member of the Art Club of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Society of Etchers, the Artists' Fund Society, and the Municipal League, Philadelphia. He taught at the Philadelphia School of Design for Women and was the father of the well-known Philadelphia genre painter, Jean Léon Gérôme Ferris.

\$ 1500



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7. WESLEY WEBBER (1841-1914)
Cabin with Black Figures
 Oil on canvas, 14 x 20 inches
 Signed at lower right: "W. Webber"

Wesley Webber was born in Gardiner, Maine and became interested in art at an early age. About 1858 he went to Boston and was apprenticed for three years to J.C. Roberts of Haymarket Square, an ornamental sign and carriage painter. Webber entered the Sixteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment in July, 1862 and was reportedly the only artist on hand at the surrender of Lee's forces at Appomattox. He produced sketches of the surrender that were later published as lithographs in *Harper's Weekly*. He continued to paint scenes from the Civil War throughout his career.

Webber exhibited frequently at the Boston Art Club, the New England Manufacturers and Mechanics Institute, Boston, and at the National Academy of Design, New York, and the Brooklyn Academy, Brooklyn. His work is in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, the Peabody Museum, Salem, and the Portland Museum of Art, Portland. Webber maintained a studio in Boston from 1870 to 1889, and by 1892 he moved his studio to New York City. He was married twice, the first marriage ended due to his problem with alcohol. Soon after his death, in 1915, C.F. Libbie and Company of Boston held an auction of Webber's work. More than one hundred and forty of Webber's paintings were represented in this auction, including, in addition to his sought after seascapes, landscapes, were animal studies, depictions of the Civil War, and still lifes.

\$ 2750

Philadelphia Collection XXXVI

Winter 1987



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